

SAMPLES.

(Taken from letters of sailors' and soldiers' wives written to the authorities concerned with the payment of separation allowances.)

Supplied by CECIL TERRY, M.A., M.B., B.Ch.(Oxon)
M.R.C.S.

(1) "My Bill has been put in charge of a spittoon, shall I get any more pay?"

(2) "We have received your letter. I am the grandfather and grandmother. He was born and brought up in this house in answer to your letter."

(3) "My husband has been away Crystal Palace and got four days' furlong and has gone away to the mind sweepers."

(4) "I write these few lines for Mrs. Morgan who can't write herself, she is expecting to be confined and can do with it."

(5) "In accordance with instructions ring paper I have given birth to a daughter 1st of April."

(6) "You have changed my little boy into a little girl, will it make any difference?"

(7) "I am expecting to be confined next month will you please let me know what I am to do about it?"

(8) "Unless I receive my husband's pay at once I shall be compelled to lead an immortal life."

(9) "In answer to your letter I was ill in bed with Happendesittis it will be useful now."

(10) "I have not received no pay since my husband has gone from nowhere."

(11) "Mrs. Haynes has been put to bed with a little lad, wife of Peter Haynes."

(12) "Will you please send my money as soon as possible as I am walking about Boston like a pauper, and oblige?"—From *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Journal*.

PRESS OPINIONS ON THE G.N.C.

FROM THE MEDICAL WORLD.

"We regret to see the *Lancet* supporting the majority of the General Nursing Council in forcing its new rules upon a strenuous minority. The first as we have explained, is to enable nurses without risking the loss of their original certificates, to send copies attested by lawyers or responsible officials of organised bodies of nurses for registration; this selection of attestors (from which doctors have been excluded carefully) is arbitrary and invidious, and it was stated at a meeting of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council to have been made in the interests of a certain Nurses' Corporation which is powerfully represented on the statutory Council and was said to have obtained recruits in large numbers by the promise that they would 'automatically and without further fee' be placed on the State Register. Now it is most essential that the original Certificates should undergo the scrutiny of the Registrar for fear of forgery, and it is obvious that errors may occur in mere copies of even genuine Certificates; the new rule it is claimed will 'speed up' the work, but if accuracy is to be sacrificed to speed, the Nursing Register will be worthless. In the second new rule which provides that the Standing Committees shall be

reconstituted forthwith instead of being dissolved with the Council itself in December, it is hard to see what is aimed at unless, as the Nurses' Parliamentary Council contend, it be the intention of the majority to pack the Committees with their supporters. Some colour is lent to this view by an analysis of the Council which shows that it consists of 12 Matrons, 4 Nurses, 5 Doctors, and 4 lay members (including 2 ladies of title, 1 lady education expert, and an Oxford don) who remind us somewhat of flies in amber since they can have no possible knowledge of either Nursing or Medicine."

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

Our gracious King and Queen have been given a most enthusiastic welcome in Belgium, and are fulfilling a busy round of engagements. Their Majesties paid a visit on Wednesday to the Tir National, where the King placed a wreath on the monument erected in memory of martyrs, including Edith Cavell, executed by the Germans. The pilgrimage of the King to the places where our revered dead lie sleeping touches all our hearts.

THE STAFF OF LIFE.

Mr. Haslam, supported by Colonel Nathan Raw, Major Molson, and Mr. Carr, has introduced in the House of Commons the Flour and Bread (Standard Quality) Bill, the object of which is to enable the public to know whether bread offered for sale contains the component parts of wheat-grain which are the most essential for nutrition and health, and to encourage as far as possible the milling of wheaten flour and wheaten meal, and the consumption of wheaten bread in which such important parts are included.

The Bill is of the utmost importance to the health of the nation, and we hope members of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council will urge their Members of Parliament to help push it forward. A letter of approval from the Hon. Officers of the Council has been sent to Mr. Haslam and his supporters.

DENTAL REGISTRATION COMPLAINTS.

Lieut.-Colonel Croft asked the Minister of Health in the House of Commons whether his attention had been called to the neglectful manner in which the dental board were dealing with applications for registry which had extended over months; whether, after letters had been sent and satisfactorily answered, the same letters as the originals were sent out by the board months afterwards; whether, instead of speedily completing the registry, applicants were kept in suspense; and what steps he intended to take to remedy this state of affairs.—Sir A. Mond replied: I have not received any previous complaints of this kind. I have no jurisdiction over the administration of the dental board, but if the hon. and gallant Member will let me have particulars of the cases to which he refers I will have inquiry made. I may add that the rules made by the board require the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)